

March 11, 2003

TO: Members of the Transportation Policy Committee

FROM: Mayor Neil Giuliano, Tempe, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Wednesday, March 19, 2003 - 4:00 p.m.
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room
302 N. First Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee is scheduled for the time and place noted above. Members of the Committee may attend the meeting either in person, by videoconference, or by telephone conference call. As was discussed at the first meeting of the Committee, proxies would not be allowed. Members who are not able to attend the meeting are encouraged to submit their comments in writing, so that their view would always be a part of the process.

Please park in the garage under the Compass Bank Building. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Valerie Day at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

Refreshments and a light dinner will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact me at (480) 350-8865, or Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, at (602) 254-6300.

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE
TENTATIVE AGENDA**

	<u>COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1. <u>Call to Order</u>	
2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3. <u>Call to the Audience</u>	3. Information.
An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Committee regarding items on the agenda. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments.	
4. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u>	4. Recommend approval of the Consent Agenda.
Prior to action on the consent agenda, Committee members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.	

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

*4A. <u>Approval of February 19, 2003 Meeting Minutes</u>	4A. Review and approve February 19, 2003 meeting minutes.
*4B. <u>Conformity Consultation</u>	4B. For consultation.
The proposed amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes a request from the Arizona Department of Transportation to add a new project in FY 2003 that will result in the restriping of Interstate-10 between 7th Street and 7th Avenue. The results of the regional emissions analysis indicate that the inclusion of the project in the TIP and Long Range Transportation Plan 2002 Update meet the transportation conformity requirements for carbon monoxide, ozone, and particulate matter. In addition, the cities of Avondale, Chandler and Phoenix have requested changes to dirt road paving projects; the City of Phoenix has requested a change to a bicycle bridge project; and the City of Mesa has requested a change to an Intelligent Transportation System project. Also, the funding	

for seven ADOT projects on Loop 202 Red Mountain Freeway and Santan Freeway are being revised to "advance construct" roadway for repayment with Grant Anticipation Notes. Please refer to the enclosed material.

***4C. Proposed Amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for Highway Projects**

MAG has received a request from the Arizona Department of Transportation to add a new project in FY 2003 that will result in the re-striping of Interstate-10 between 7th Street and 7th Avenue. On January 30, 2003, the Transportation Review Committee (TRC) recommended approval of this amendment.

In addition, the Cities of Avondale, Chandler and Phoenix have requested changes to dirt road paving projects; the City of Phoenix has requested a change to a bicycle bridge project; and the City of Mesa has requested a change to an ITS project.

Further, ADOT has notified MAG of the need to change the potential funding source for seven regional freeway system projects on the Red Mountain and Santan Freeways in FYs 2003 and 2004. Currently, the funding source is defined as RARF/15% funding. However, the projects are being advance constructed for federal purposes and will be repaid by Grant Anticipation Note (GAN) funding in future years. This item is on the March 12 Management Committee agenda. An update on action taken by the Committee will be provided. Please refer to the enclosed material.

***4D. FY 2003 MAG Mid-Phase Public Input Opportunity**

During the mid-phase public input opportunity, MAG co-sponsored several events from the end of January 2003 through March 6, 2003 in cooperation with the Arizona Department of Transportation, Valley Metro/Regional Public Transportation Authority, and Valley Metro Rail. Opportunities included a freeway opening, a "MAG at the Mall" event and a Joint Agency Open House and Public Hearing. Additional opportunities included small group presentations, Black History

4C. Recommend approval of the proposed amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program as shown on the attached Tables One and Two.

4D. Information and discussion.

Month events in Phoenix and Peoria, participation in several Hispanic community events such as the Latino Institute, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the 8th Annual Seminar in Spanish and Business Expo event. The FY 2003 Mid-Phase Input Opportunity Report contains all of the information gathered at these meetings and events, as well as comments received at Management Committee and Regional Council meetings. Please refer to the enclosed material.

***4E. Transportation Outreach to MAG Member Agencies**

The Transportation Policy Committee is working on developing the plan that will be presented to the voters for the extension of the one-half cent sales tax for transportation. As part of this effort, an outreach strategy was developed for working with the business community. This outreach strategy is being extended to the MAG member agencies to assist in informing their residents regarding the MAG transportation planning efforts. Examples of materials that can be provided to the member agencies are newsletter inserts, a video to play on cable programs and a media kit. A website is also being developed, letskeepmoving.com, that can be linked to member agency websites. Please refer to the enclosed material.

4E. Information and discussion.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

5. Guidance for Developing Alternatives Packages

At the February TPC meeting, the goals and objectives were approved. In addition, the results of the area transportation studies were reviewed and an overview of the evaluation methodology was discussed. These are key elements leading to the development of transportation alternatives for review by the TPC. On March 5, 2003, a workshop was held with TPC members and member agency staff, to discuss draft revenue projections, transportation alternative packages and performance measures. Considerable input was received on how the transportation alternative packages should be formulated.

5. Provide guidance regarding what types of projects and programs would be eligible for funding from a one-half cent sales tax extension for transportation.

To assist in developing the scenarios, staff is proposing that the sources of revenue be identified and what types of projects are eligible for these funds. In many cases the funds have specific uses identified either by federal or state law. Once the eligible uses and 20-year amounts for the existing funds are clearly identified, the next task is to determine what types of projects (i.e., freeways, transit, streets, bicycle, pedestrian etc.) should be funded from the extension of the extension of the one-half cent sales tax for transportation. Narrowing the uses of the sales tax funds would help clarify the development of the alternatives. Please refer to the enclosed material.

6. Performance Measures

Options for performance measures and their application in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) have been discussed at a number of TPC meetings and workshops held in January, February and early March. These performance measures will be used in the RTP process to assess the relative strengths and weaknesses of the alternatives and to help provide insights into the tradeoffs associated with different transportation investment strategies. A set of proposed performance measures for use in the alternatives evaluation phase of the RTP process has been prepared. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Maintenance Funding

At the February TPC meeting, the topic of funding maintenance needs was discussed. It was determined that this item would be placed on the March agenda for a more thorough discussion. Under present arrangements, the funds for maintenance come from the ADOT portion of the Highway User Revenue Fund. To receive funds for maintenance, the ADOT staff works with the staff of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. The Legislature determines the amount of funds that are appropriated for maintenance needs coming out of the ADOT portion of the HURF. Maintenance includes repairing pot holes, litter pick up, sweeping the roads, and repairing the cable-median barriers. Major resurfacing of highways, is funded through the ADOT Five-Year Highway Construction

6. Accept the proposed set of performance measures to assist in evaluation of alternatives. As the RTP proceeds, the performance measures may need to be adjusted or refined based on their actual application in the planning process.

7. Information and discussion.

Program. Issues for discussion by the TPC include: Should funding for maintenance come out of the existing ADOT funds, or should maintenance be funded using the proceeds of the sales tax.

8. Legislative Update

On February 17, 2003, the House Transportation Committee considered HB 2292. At the hearing, MAG supported the bill and noted that additional consideration would need to be given to placing safeguards, similar to what now exist for the freeway program, in the bill. Examples of safeguards would be the material cost change and enhancement policy. It was also noted by MAG at the hearing that the timing in the bill would need further examination to ensure that a May 2004 election could be held. On February 20, 2003, HB 2292, passed the House by a vote of 60-0.

Following the House vote, staff worked with the supporters of the bill to have the safeguards language addressed in the bill. On March 10, 2003, staff was informed that no new amendments would be considered for HB 2292. On March 11, 2003, HB 2292 was considered by the Senate Natural Resources and Transportation Committee. At this hearing, MAG discussed the safeguards with the Committee. In addition, funding mechanics for addressing streets and transit were raised, along with election timing issues. The bill passed the Committee by a vote of 6-0. If these safeguard and funding mechanics issues are not addressed now, it will leave these issues to be addressed when the election authorization is considered in a later special or regular session of the legislature. Another option would be to consider these improvements in another bill. The next committee to hear the bill is the Senate Finance Committee.

9. Future Agenda Items

At the April 16, 2003 TPC meeting, we anticipate discussing the following items:

- Revenue Projections
- Preliminary Evaluation

8. Information and discussion.

9. Information.